



News Release

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NMCI Office to examine innovation opportunities made possible by new Navy network

Arlington Va. -- Having undertaken the Navy Marine Corps Intranet initiative to consolidate a multitude of Navy and Marine Corps base and installation specific computer networks into a single enterprise-wide network, the Department of the Navy is now taking steps to determine how to get the most out of this innovative network.

The NMCI Innovation Council (NIC), which had its first meeting this week, gives innovators within the DoN the opportunity to discuss potential improvements in the existing NMCI network, examine trends and developments in information technology that could enhance NMCI utility to the end users, and provide an opportunity to examine technologies that could affect the future development of the NMCI network.

The NIC is the first of several initiatives being undertaken the NMCI Office to capture ideas and recommendations for getting maximum benefit from the network. NMCI draws heavily on "industry best practices and procedures" which introduces challenges to the Navy to adapt these industry procedures to meet the operational and administrative requirements of the Navy and Marine Corps.

According NMCI Director Rear Adm. Charles L. Munns, "The goal of the NMCI Innovation Council is to identify innovative ways to leverage the existing NMCI network infrastructure to provide value to the DoN beyond the services specified in the NMCI contract."

Capt. Chris Christopher, Director of Future Operations and Business Initiatives for the NMCI Office, stated "Innovation Council members will be asked to achieve this goal by combining existing equipment and technologies with ground-breaking ideas to enhance NMCI's contribution to the Navy and Marine Corps within a two-year timeframe."

He went on to explain that the NIC will be charged with "identifying possibilities for insertion of existing technologies, Business Process Re-engineering, integration of other technology not currently part of NMCI that could enhance the return on the investment to the DoN, and out-of-the-box concepts that would provide unexpected and highly beneficial results."

The NIC is part of the NMCI Center for Innovation, a five-phase approach to take full advantage of the network that the DoN will have at its disposal through the implementation of NMCI. Other phases will include: a product evaluation center, industry symposiums, fleet conferences and a partnering with industry experts to ensure that NMCI is kept at the forefront of new technology.

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